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INTERMODAL CONTAINER TRANSFER FACILITY

MODERNIZATION AND EXPANSION PROJECT

PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2009

STEPHENS MIDDLE SCHOOL, LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA

Page 2

Long Beach, California, Wednesday, February 11, 2009

-0-MR. ROGAN: My name is Ed Rogan. I work for a

5 local firm here in Long Beach called Essentia Management Services. We were hired by the Joint Powers Authority to monitor this project for the first 12 to 18 months dealing with this EIR. We're working closely with the South Coast Air Quality Management District, who most of 10 you should know who are reading the document or attending previous meetings are actually conducting the 12 EIR and writing the document on behalf of the responsible agency which is the JPA, which again I think most of you are aware of the existence of the joint authority comprised of the two ports.

There are some important people of notoriety in the room tonight. I'm only going to deal with one of them, the gentleman getting stuck in the front row here. This is Sam Joumblat. He's the executive director of the JPA. And in addition to anyone in the room from Essentia or anyone else you know from the two ports, there's your answer man right there if we don't have the answer.

This is the public scoping meeting for the NOP for the ICTF Modernization and Expansion Project EIR. One of my colleagues, Dennis Crable, is going to actually make the presentation. It will only be about 10 or 15 minutes, just a very brief overview of the current status of the project, one slide on the schedule, one slide on the outreach efforts including the Web site that's available where you can get all this information, where you can get this presentation -- or will be on the Site as early as tomorrow.

General logistics -- you have already been introduced to the speaker services we have over here. Food -- usually an important item, available in the back of the room. Restrooms -- I believe the men's room is through that door. Unfortunately, the women have to go out the door across to the auditorium.

There are some poster boards over there on that 16 side of the room against the wall which are way too detailed for us to have included in the presentation, but they're available for the public to look at. There are copies of the slides in a handout in the back of the room. I think most of you probably saw them when you came in. Nadine is back there doing that. We do have a reporter here trying to keep up with all of the different speaking engagements either from this microphone or that one which is where each of you will come up when you have your comments.

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1. There are comment cards, speaker cards, available at the back table where Nadine is presently holding one of them up. If you need to give a speech, you will have three minutes as you do with each of these meetings. We have a timer over here. If it goes orange, don't get all nervous. It starts off with two minutes and 30 seconds. The last 30 seconds is the orange and then the red, you will get the full three minutes or a little extra time if you need it. I will be monitoring that up here from in front of the room. Please speak clearly; please state your name when you get up to the microphone.

What I will do, as you fill out those speaker cards and turn them in to Nadine, she will provide them to me. When we get to the speaker portion of the event, coming portion of the event, I'll call up here -- call out three names so that we know who the first three people are, and then we'll try to keep a couple people in the queue from the list that we have from the cards that were turned in.

And I think that might be all of the general introductory comments. I don't think there's anything you want to say, so with that, I know everybody is probably more anxious to get to the comments than sit and listen to the presentation, but I think this will be

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1 a very valuable overview, and we will -- I promise to 2 keep it as short as we can. Thank you very much.

Dennis.

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MR. CRABLE: Hi, my name is Dennis Crable, and I'm involved with the management preparation of this 6 EIR. It's called the ICTF Modernization and Expansion Project.

Overview of CEOA. CEOA was enacted in 1997. CEQA requires that lead agencies inform themselves about the environmental effects of the proposed action; that they carefully consider all relevant information before they act; and most important, I think, is give the public a opportunity to comment on the environmental issues in order to avoid or reduce significant environmental impacts when it is feasible to do so.

It includes the following steps -- we also have a handout for you -- consultation and scoping process for this project to identify the major issues that will be analyzed in the EIR. We prepare and circulate the Notice of Preparation and the Initial Study. Those are available in the back of the room; they're also on the Web site. We conduct a public scoping meeting.

We prepare the Draft Environmental Impact 24 Report. We circulate it for comments for 45 to 60 days after it's been prepared. We conduct another public

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74 of those acres are on an adjacent property that Union Pacific leases from Watson Land Company, as well as another adjacent 15 acres that UP owns, for a total, current total, of 237 acres.

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The ICTF was specifically designed to provide near-dock infrastructure required to handle the international container shipping demand and to enhance the flow of container traffic through the POLA and POLB -- Port of Los Angeles, Port of Long Beach.

Construction would be phased in seven stages over the course of approximately three to four years. The proposed project would increase the capacity to handle containers from the current annual capacity of 725,000 containers to approximately 1.5 million annual average by modernizing existing equipment and equipment operation -- operating methods. The project would increase truck traffic, existing traffic, currently estimated at about 1.1 million to approximately 2.268 million one-way truck trips per year.

It would increase the number of annual rail trips from 4,745 to approximately 9,490. It would increase the container-handling capacity by reconfiguring existing tracks and adding new train tracks and replacing the existing diesel-fueled rubber-tired gantry cranes with electric-powered

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1 hearing. We evaluate the response to the comments after the comment period is closed.

We prepare a Final Environmental Impact Report which consists of the Draft Environmental Impact Report plus the comments and responses and revisions to the draft that was made in response to the comments. We present it to the lead agency, and then we certify that the process was in compliance with CEQA. The lead agency then will approve the project or not approve the project or possibly approve an alternative to the project.

The scoping process consists of the NOP/IS which is circulated for agency and public review. Scoping meeting is held. Comments from agencies and public are used to help focus the analysis contained in the Draft Environmental Impact Report which becomes very important for that purpose as well.

ICTF is located at 2401 Sepulveda Boulevard at 19 the end of the Terminal Island Freeway. Between '82 and 20 '86 POLA and POLB and Southern Pacific Transportation Company acquired by Union Pacific -- not the property but the leasehold -- they jointly developed and bond-financed the ICTF through a public/private partnership.

It's comprised of approximately 148 acres, and

wide-span gantry cranes. These cranes can service several tracks at once and shuttle containers and reduce emissions through the use of diesel fuel.

Schedule. The NOP was published for the general public. Public review period began January 9 and will end February 25th. Scoping meeting tonight. We expect the Draft EIR for public review sometime in June, July, or August. And we will have another public meeting sometime in August.

We have a semipermanent outreach and comments which will be handled by Greg Alexander for the most part. He built the Web site or got the Web site up, and he addresses the public outreach institute, and if you have questions, he's the person to call at our company. As you can see, the calendar and other things, the meetings on the Web site, sign up for notification lists, project documents, background materials, and requesting project information from Greg Alexander at that number. And that's it.

MR. ROGAN: Okay. I told you we would keep it short. Dennis did a great job. All of that information is available in the back of the room. It will be posted on the Web site tomorrow.

So with that, we will move forward with the speaker comment session. And I'm going to call three

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1 names. The first person should come up. Please remember to clearly state your name and the organization you're representing if there is such an organization. 4 We will queue three people, and then when the third 5 person is up, I'll try to get two or three more people 6 in line. So far I have 15 cards, and I think there's a

There does need to be a three-minute limit. The timer will be going over here, so please try to keep an eye on it. Please try to honor that, so we can get everybody a turn to get up here and speak their mind.

few more being filled out in the back.

The first -- actually, are there any general questions before we get into the speakers, one at a time? People out there having a question. I see we have two or three.

Yes, ma'am.

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17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Of course, are we going 18 to hear from the JPA?

MR. ROGAN: Yes, Sam Joumblat's here. He's the executive director of the JPA.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Well, what about people who are appointed to the JPA who are not here?

MR. ROGAN: The Board is not here, no, ma'am.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: That's entirely

25 irregular. President David Freeman and our other Harbor

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Commissioners -- why aren't they here?

MR. ROGAN: They have other obligations tonight, and I think we need to move on.

There was another question over here. Yes, siг.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: What is the exact location of the proposed terminal?

MR. ROGAN: It's where it presently is. It's a modification of the existing facility.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Where is that? 2401 East Sepulveda Boulevard.

MR. ROGAN: Yes, it's way out that way, less than a mile.

There is an aerial photo back there, I think, 15 in the back corner which shows you the exact location.

Okay. First speaker tonight will be Mr. Bill Lyte, second speaker will be John Hummer, and the third speaker will be Dan Hoffman.

MR. LYTE: Yes. Good evening. Thank you for 20 the opportunity to speak. My name is Bill Lyte. I'm 21 the development chair of the Harbor Association of

22 Industry and Commerce. Our organization employs thousands of individuals. We have more than a hundred

24 member companies, major companies here in the port area.

We're very strongly supportive of this project.

We've been following it for the last two and a half years. We followed it through our governmental affairs committee. We are formally recommending that it be approved. We feel that it is vital to the future operation of our port complex here, and beyond that, it helps to grow the green technology initiatives that we

have underway. This project is a major end-user of green technology. 9

And thirdly, we need the jobs that it creates. We're in a terrible recession, and it's going to get worse. And so it's very, very important to support this project. So thank you.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Could we get an idea to where these folks live?

MR. ROGAN: That's really -- that's a personal announcement, and if they feel comfortable announcing where they live, then they can, but I'm not going to require it.

John Hummer, please.

MR. HUMMER: Thank you. My name is John Hummer. I'm with the State of California. I work for the Business, Transportation, and Housing Agency, which is an agency of the state government. Within our agency we have Caltrans. We have DMV. We have CHP. We have a lot of different departments. I'm the goods movement

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deputy for the State of California. I'm here to speak in strong support of this modification of the ICTF, and I live in Sacramento and work for the state.

What we have here is an issue that balances environmental justice and economic opportunity. And when people are looking at these two dynamic issues, it's always hard to balance. We try to toss the coin, and hopefully, it lands on its edge, so we're both addressing the economic opportunities and the environmental justice issues. The good thing about this project is that it will be the greenest railroad terminal in the United States. It will also divert literally millions of truck moves off the I-710, which is extremely important for the air quality congestion in 1.5 Los Angeles.

From the economic side, what it does is it offers the port an opportunity to grow in the tens of thousands of jobs in the L.A. Basin from all the way from the Port neighbors here to the Inland Empire depending on the warehousing jobs that the ports have to bring. The ICTF will help the port grow and grow green.

The chief issue here is, How do we get trucks into the terminal? And I think that is where the community can also participate in the economic opportunities offered by this development because we at

1 the state are looking at how we can develop a green guideway to this facility to make it as really true as possible to the communities surrounding it.

And once again, I wish I had more time, but I want to thank the audience, and I want to thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak. And we strongly support the goods movement action plan from the state, a very important project. Thank you.

MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

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Next is Dan Hoffman, and following Dan will be Randy Gordon and Bill, I believe, Walles, W-a-1-l-e-s.

MR. HOFFMAN: Good evening. I am Dan Hoffman. I'm the executive director for the Wilmington Chamber of Commerce, and I'm also a resident of Wilmington.

The Wilmington Chamber of Commerce continues to support this project, thinking it's going to make a tremendous decrease in harmful emissions by the use of electric cranes, elimination of rail yard trucks, genset 19 locomotives for switching, high tech gates that will get 20 trucks through the gates within 20 seconds versus five minutes. Then once they get through those gates, they will be able to handle that cargo efficiently without any diesel engines, attempted and tested technology.

Remember at the last hearing President Freeman 25 had mentioned - made a connection to electric trucks

determine which business sectors currently thrive in the struggling economy and keep ways to support their efforts. It should be clear to you that both these projects and Union Pacific are important components to driving our local economy. For many projects, if it's approved and allowed to continue, will provide badly needed construction jobs. In today's struggling economy, new jobs sound very, very good.

And second, we must support our business community's efforts to invest in green technology. I applaud Union Pacific's commitment to making this project as environmentally friendly as possible. This project will reduce emissions by replacing diesel-powered equipment with electric-powered equipment, providing diesel near-dock rail container capacity, and by increasing operations effectively. continue to promote the direct transfer of cargo from port to rail with minimal surface transportation congestion or delay.

And finally, upon completion, this project is estimated to reduce on-site diesel emissions by approximately 74 percent and emissions of oxide and nitrogen by more than 55 percent from 2005 levels.

In conclusion, it is clear to the Long Beach Area Chamber of Commerce and our over 1,000 business

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1 and other technology, and they have -- once they are 2 certified, those electric trucks -- they will purchase 3 two of them and do that successfully. Hopefully, when they put the pencil to paper, I'd say that's a win-win 5 for everyone.

As far as the modernization in regard to the 7 proposed SR-47 expressway go hand in hand to ensure that our ports will be competitive, and by handling the goods in the most efficient and the cleanest manner possible. 10 Given our current economic climate, our chamber feels that there should be something in the port to create 12 jobs and new technique to ensure the ports are a desirable destination for goods movement. There is just too much at stake for this project to be delayed, and I 15 thank you for this opportunity.

MR. GORDON: Good evening. My name is Randy Gordon. I'm the president and CEO of the Long Beach Area Chamber of Commerce, and I reside in Long Beach.

Last year our chamber met with the most 21 involved businesses that we have and developed clear and focused public policies for 2009. Two such initiatives brings me here tonight to express the chamber's support for moving forward with the modernization plan EIR.

First the Long Beach business community must

members that by reading the description, project description, that this project deserves to move forward. Businesses such as Union Pacific and their employees help drive our economy. They need us now more than ever. I urge the support of this project. Thank you. 6

MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

Next speaker is Bill Walles, and after him would be Paul Spiering and Evangelina Ramirez.

MR. WALLES: Thank you for the opportunity to speak. I'm a local businessman. I live in San Pedro. I'm the father of an eight-year-old son, and I am in great support of this project. I work in keeping track of -- in surveying emerging technology.

The only opportunity for green growth is through this project. The only opportunity to improve our current standard of living and grow for our community are the opportunities to do this modernization project like this proposed by the Union Pacific. Union Pacific is an incredibly good company that has demonstrated its leadership in trying to develop green technology to extend that locomotive facility to use electric yard-handling equipment, and the general theme of this project is to increase the through-put. Frankly, it saves our jobs and saves our community, and I speak in great support for it. Thank you.

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MR. SPIERING: Hi, thank you. My name is 2 Paul Spiering, and I'm with the Port Technology Development Center. I live in San Pedro.

This project, I think, is necessarily good, and 5 I also think that this project is well planned and intelligent. And thank you.

MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

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Evangelina Ramirez. After that, we have Camilla Townsend and John Thomas.

MS. RAMIREZ: My name is Evangelina Ramirez. 11 I'm from the Long Beach Alliance for Children with 12 Asthma, and I have a child with asthma.

A lot of things that come out, oh, this is 14 wonderful; everything is wonderful. But I also know 15 it's wonderful when my child has an asthma attack. It's 16 wonderful when I have to clean up my windows, and it's only oil on there. That is wonderful? That's wonderful 18 when my child asks to go to play outside in the yard, and they can't do it, and she has to wait. That is wonderful? I would like to know if that is wonderful.

I would like to see you guys in there -- I 22 would like to see you guys when they feel they cannot 23 breathe. They cannot breathe. We have to be in the 24 emergency room the whole night. I would like to see you guys -- to everybody. Yeah. I would like you to

an official delegate to the joint powers board and had quite a bit of experience in those four years in working with this facility.

And I have to say, in looking back -- looking back at that operation which has always been a sound, good operation that was definitely in need of upgrading and modernization, this is probably one of the most thorough, clearly defined projects that I've seen come forward in any of the maritime projects.

Now, I'm president of the San Pedro Chamber of 11 Commerce. We, too, support this project. We believe that it will bring significant economic revenues to the entire region while reducing negative environmental impacts. Our chamber is partnershipped with the San Pedro Bay Port Technology Development Center. It's very focused on development of green technology that will address the issues that oppose health risks to people 18 who live near us in industrial areas. And we feel this project is totally green. It reduces diesel emissions which is the major cause and will cover our needs with clean electrical energy that we can truly support.

We also support our neighbors in Wilmington. We are also pleased because the project will take trucks out of the neighborhood streets by providing state of the art new gate system and will safely handle the

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1 understand.

Before this -- everything, please stop and 3 think. Help the children. How you can help these kind of people to help with asthma.

We're not doing enough for cleaning the environment that is like it is. First we need to clean up all the air we have. I understand we need more things, but of course, please, please think of the little kids. Please think of families.

Sometimes I don't have money to pay my doctor. 11 Sometimes I have to work double-time. I have to leave 12 my kids at home with the babysitter. I don't have enough time to stick up for them because I have to work, 14 and I have to pay my bills, and I have to pay 15 everything.

Who's going to help me with my child if I die? Who's going to help me when I have to pay the hospital 18 \$1,500 or \$2,000 because the emergency room is not going to pay? That is my question. Who's going to help me? 20 Thank you.

MS. TOWNSEND: Good evening. I'm Camilla 22 Townsend, president and CEO of the San Pedro Chamber of Commerce. I'm also going to make some comments to the 24 former Harbor Commissioners. I served on the Board of Harbor Commissioners for the Port of Los Angeles. I was

movement of goods, so we lend our support for this project. Thank you. 3

MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

Next speaker is John Thomas followed by John Cross and Erika Olvena.

MR. THOMAS: Good evening. My name is John Thomas. I live right across from the harbor here in San Pedro, and I would just like the members of the audience to take a look at the secondary filter in my home -- air filter system here made from a couple of microscopic variations -- surgical mask, about the finest filter that you could get. And this is a secondary filter. There's a dust filter in front of it. 14 There's also a window screen in front of that. It's coated in coal dust and diesel soot, asphalt dust from the roads, tire dust, brake dust. This goes right through this material like wet paint, as you can clearly see the outside, and this is the inside. It doesn't 18 19 seem to make that much difference.

For several years I've been coming to the meetings, and I get extremely frustrated with David Freeman, the harbor commission president, because I felt that several organizations have submitted paperwork which indicates that the overall extremely harmful contaminants from diesel fuel -- and I don't care if

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1 it's from the ship fuel which is the worst, standard diesel which is not really as bad as that, or the heating of homes, ultra sulfur triple-refined diesel

4 fuel, all three of them. The problem with them is that 5 they are derived from petroleum, which is the same problem we have with gasoline.

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We have the technology today while we're waiting to go all-electric to simply switch to 100 percent biodiesel or diesel engines converted to run 10 on pure vegetable oil, ethanol, compressed natural gas. 11 Those that work in gasoline-powered engines -- and 12 there's universal biodiesel engines will be a hundred percent with no blend of any petroleum-based products in 14 these empty, big ships. And if we use these fuels, this will decrease the overall pollution coming out of the ports by about 95 percent.

And I'd also like to point out there is another 18 big plot of land right here at Ocean Boulevard and the 19 47 freeway, and that is the ideal location for a 20 facility of this magnitude. It's not near any schools; 21 it's not near any congested housing in the area. And 22 another two important advantages are that in the evening 23 when the wind changes direction, it will take the 24 pollution offshore. And when the Santa Anas are 25 blowing, the same thing is true.

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And since there has not been any effort made to 2 switch to these fuels by the harbor, I strongly advise 3 against putting this in unless there is some effort made to switch to cleaner burning fuels that will be 5 available to the general public and all the ships and the cranes and trains that operate in both ports. Thank you.

MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

MR. CROSS: Yes, my name is John Cross, and I'm director -- vice president of the West Long Beach Naval Association which encompasses everything west of the L.A. River. I live approximately 500 yards that way along the harbor, about 200 yards away from the Navy and the ICTF Terminal.

I really have to address the impacts in the terminal that's there now. Contacts through the chamber -- they're supporting everybody. They support this project. There's not a project that any chamber of commerce does not like, so the chamber is out there. So if there was any goods coming in from overseas to support jobs in warehouses or in a retail store, they always propose tariffs on containers because it's going to hurt commerce.

When the children of Long Beach should not be permitted in the rail yard -- they're suffering from

asthma and stuff like this. We need to put containers

But as for this yard, I suggest operation -have it run 24 hours a day, seven days a week. It's really noisy. I don't care how clean you say they're going to get. They're not going to go clean. It's not going to take the stuff away from the schools, Cabrillo High School, and stuff like this.

So the trucks come out the Port of Long Beach; they're not going to go down and come across the 47 expressway if they're going to Alameda. They're going to come out PCH and come out of Anaheim, come up the 103 freeway, and go right on down Sepulveda and to the beach and to the yard.

I bet any one of you the Chamber of Commerce representing people that support the project don't live within 500 yards of these facilities. If they lived within 500 yards of this facility -- I asked one of the railroad vice presidents. He wouldn't live near any of those rail yards. Most of the people here that are residents have been here before the rail yard was built. They won't ever be a good neighbor. They won't be a good neighbor in the future.

And I don't care what you say, if you totally support this project, I know cranes. I think you can

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put these containers on the train, haul them up there. The Alameda Corridor, that's fine. That gets the trucks off the freeway.

4 But the rail yards need to go in the port. The railroads don't want that, and the Port of Long Beach should step up and put rail facilities on-dock, not in neighborhoods where it affects the health of the kids and the residents of the neighborhood. And the cost weighs of lost productivity from people being sick, 10 asthma, cancer, heart disease, taking children from school -- they outweigh the facility.

And as for taking the trucks off the 710 freeway, why do they want to widen the 710 freeway to ten lanes down here in Long Beach if we're taking all 1.5 the trucks off the freeway? You guys are using smoke and mirrors. Most people are starting to see through the smoke and mirrors. This is not a good idea. The Port of Long Beach should put on-dock rail. They should clean up the existing mess they have got now. Instead 20 of spending \$40 million, they should clean up the existing mess they've got now, the existing mess they 22 have in the yards in Wilmington and the yards they've got up in Commerce, and start doing the right thing. 24 When they start proving they're doing the right thing,

then maybe we'll listen. But they are not doing

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We're totally opposed to this project, and I personally and West Long Beach Association and private parties want it to stop.

MR, ROGAN: Thank you.

Next speaker is Erika Olvena followed by Monica Panilla and Andrea Hricko.

MS. OLVENA: Good evening. My name is Erika Olvena. I am a resident of Long Beach, and I have a daughter with asthma. In the case of my daughter if 11 it is in school when she is suffering from asthma symptoms and it is because of the pollution and the lack 13 of health to us regarding this issue.

In my case it is also the stress that we suffer 15 because of the situation that we're going through with my daughter. So I also -- and I'm also suffering from headaches because of the fumes that are there and from allergies because of the quantity of dust that comes in my windows morning, noon, and night.

For this reason I ask you please, in your report, investigate how -- what effect this will have on people's health in the community and the consequences 23 that are going to result from this project that you want to do. Please take into consideration that what we are going through and that it could be somewhere with a

electricity is going to be used, and how this is going to affect people's health.

And I hear that everyone is speaking very nicely about this project. What I would like to know is if you have done surveys of the people who live right around in this area and that they really know what these -- how it's going to affect them and if they approve of it. And I have a question for you and for these representatives of that company: I'd like to know if these people live in this area?

MR. ROGAN: I represent the Joint Powers Authority that will be evaluating the entire scope of the project, and I live in Irvine.

Next speaker is Andrea Hricko followed by Elina Green and Angelo Logan.

16 MS. HRICKO: Thank you. I'm Andrea Hricko from 17 the University of Southern California School of Medicine, and I conduct a -- I direct a community outreach program working with scientists who have 20 conducted some of the world landmark studies on the 21 effects on children's lungs of studies -- I'm sorry. 22 They have conducted studies on the effect of traffic 23 proximity on children's lungs. We now know that children who live closer to traffic or closer to diesel exhaust are more likely to develop asthma or have

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young family who could be in the same situation. Thank you.

MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

Monica.

MS. PANILLA: My name is Monica Panilla, and I live in Long Beach, and I am against this project. It is very frustrating to see how the companies, because of their ambition, don't care how the people are affected -- most of the people -- how they're affected by the pollution that already exists all around here. That's not enough for them because it's more important that they begin to take action to clean up the rail yard because it is the third dirtiest yard in the state of California.

At the rate we're going, the housing -- housing 16 is going to lose even more value because the area is so polluted and because of the noise. And because of this and the noise, the quality of life in this area is awful. And the traffic congestion from the trucks and the cars is very stressful and because the pollution is just never ending.

In your report I want you to research very well how your project will affect these things in regard to how many more traffic will be coming in every day or every hour, how much light is going to be used, how much reduced lung function. There are a variety of other studies, and I request that all of these studies be carefully reviewed in the EIR.

The homes in this community and the schools in this community pretty much have been impacted by this rail yard for the last 22 years, and one of the project's goals is to reduce emissions at the ICTF by replacing diesel-powered equipment. This goal can be met without expanding the ICTF. This currently has the fourth highest diesel cancer rate of any rail yard studied in California, and the risks at the current yard must be reduced.

Another project goal is to continue to promote the direct transfer of cargo from port to rail with minimal surface transportation congestion in the way. The only way that direct transfer happens is by putting a container onto a train at the port. That's the direct transfer area. A rail yard that's five miles from the port in a residential community does not promote direct rail -- direct transfer to rail.

I request that there be an analysis of alternatives, and that in the course of that analysis that are included, number one, reducing emissions at the existing ICTF to reduce the cancer rate in the nearby community and maximizing on-dock rail with no expansion.

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Looking at that as an alternative, if the planning of on-dock rail is maximized, is that a viable alternative?

Number two would be electrifying the Alameda Corridor and electrifying the locomotives from the ICTF that are entering that corridor.

Number three would be electrification of the trucks entering the facility.

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And number four would be the analysis of maglev.

I think that it's really important for a very careful traffic analysis to be done because of some of the people from the various chambers of commerce and other organizations stating that millions of truck trips are going to be taken off of the 710 freeway. I would 15 refer you to newspaper stories in 1984 that made that exact same claim about what this ICTF was going to do for them when it was built ten years ago. I would ask anyone here to say whether or not we think that it has solved our congestion problems. The Alameda Corridor also said it was going to reduce truck traffic on the 710. The SR-47 freeway was to reduce directly truck traffic on the 710, and the public needs to really understand what these projects are about.

This project is designed to help support and 25 accommodate more containers that are coming in. That's health that exists in this community because of the high levels of pollutants from the existing facility in its current state, and I would like to echo the comments that have been made that there is a lack of trust between the Union Pacific and the community in terms of their ability to follow through on cutting pollution.

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So I am speaking on behalf of the coalition that we are very much opposed to the expansion of this project. Specifically, the government on truck trips onto these communities -- we've had community members 11 count truck trips, and they have counted over 500 trucks 1.2 passing on the Terminal Island freeway servicing the 13 ICTF in a one-hour period on multiple occasions. So we see a doubling of truck traffic. If you look again at what the current totals are -- the specific capacity in 16 this facility that exists now, it is pretty difficult to imagine where the truck trips will go.

Furthermore, the emissions associated with all those trucks cause problems of health. I know that there's a lot of information about the clean trucks program for the port taking into account the pollution that will be coming from these trucks that are servicing this facility and where the challenges some of the people commented on that clean trucks program are, and I question whether or not we will actually see any

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what it is for, and so looking -- we need to be looking at not coming up with some analysis --

MR. ROGAN: You need to wrap up.

MS. HRICKO: -- trying to prove that the truck 5 traffic throughout this whole region is going to be reduced by having a facility like this. It's going to have twice as many trucks in the community as it has today.

And just for the record, I would like to be sure that it's stated that, I think, probably many people in this room are very surprised that there was perhaps a decision by the Joint Powers Authority to not have the harbor commissioners or the executive directors of both the ports be at this hearing tonight. I personally find that appalling. Thank you.

MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

The next speaker is Elina Green followed by Angela Logan and Elena Rodriguez.

MS. GREEN: Good evening. My name is Elina 20 Green, and I'm here as a public health consultant. I work for the Long Beach Alliance for Children with 22 Asthma. We're a coalition with the city of Long Beach 23 for over ten years. Thousands of families suffering with asthma use our services.

We are very concerned about the health -- the

reduction with trucks entering the facility.

I also request that the energy study nonintensive impacts on health, things like asthma that you're heard from some of the community members. Asthma is not something that is related that has financial and other quality-of-life impacts. Cardiovascular disease impacts the outcome, and there is a huge body of literature from USC of L.A. will be visited again, as well.

In terms of the population and housing, it has not projected how significant the impacts on these will be. If you can question whether or not that is exactly the case, and I imagine that real estate values for residents living in this area will experience impact. Light and truck traffic are also problems from that industry.

And I'll just end by saying because of the key impacts as referenced in the NOP proposed for the gate projects area in the neighborhood, but there is no reference to the SR-47 project, and I'm a little concerned as to the reasons why the reference to the state project and not this project as these projects are all very much the same.

I just want to end with one final statement. I know that they're saying there's no sense to having two

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gates, one in the back and one in the front, and that trucks will be exiting out and turning right only on Sepulveda, and so that is the question. What's going to 4 happen when the Terminal Island freeway will be closed to truck traffic? And I recommend that the NOP look at that as well. Thank you so much.

MR. LOGAN: My name is Angelo Logan. I'm with the Committee on Environmental Justice, and I just wanted to add some comments in regard to NOP further examination that would be, hopefully, examined in the Environmental Impact Report.

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I think it's really important for this study to really examine and study the regional impacts of this particular project. We know that one of the objectives of the project is to increase capacity of the through-put. That would lead me to believe that there would be added activity at other rail yards such as the intermodal facility at City of Commerce. With that added activity, I'm sure there's going to be some impact to that local vicinity, but that should be further analyzed.

Also I believe there would be more traffic on the rail lines going out eastbound out of the port area, and I believe there should be a further examination of the impact from the limited capacity of the main lines

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going eastbound out with both the place traffic and the commuter traffic.

In terms of the truck traffic and reducing truck traffic from 710 and other arterials, in terms of this particular project attempts that have been made -that should thoroughly be examined and studied. 7 Recently on the 710 meeting they kind of looked at several scenarios for growth and through-put on the 710 freeway, and one of the scenarios we looked at was with and without an expansion, and it still calls for the exact same amount of lanes that they would expect to 12 have on the 710 freeway.

So it doesn't seem like that there would be a 14 decrease in truck traffic on the 710 freeway. So I 15 think coordination with the 710 project and a thorough 16 study of the traffic -- truck traffic throughout the region should be examined. In terms of this project, would it be a magnet, or would it be actual reductions in truck traffic?

I also think there should be a written 21 threshold identified and that a public assessment should 22 be conducted in realizing both children, workers, and 23 residents in that analysis in the EIR, and also a comprehensive study on opportunity for on-dock rail versus added alternatives versus expansion of ICTF.

Also I believe there should be a health impact assessment conducted and with that a more thorough and comprehensive public participation in this process. As we all know being here today, it's very difficult to participate when you're at the end of the amount of time to give your viewpoints. It's a one-way conversation. Maybe you can set up a public participation process where you can sit down with the community and have a more productive conversation in addition. Thank you.

MR. ROGAN: Thank you. Next speaker is Elena Rodriguez.

Before you begin, there is a public review period going on, and we will be receiving written comments through February 25th. So, yes, your three minutes is fairly constricted in nature. You have a period of about 50 days to provide written comments which are treated the same way as these public comments.

MS. RODRIGUEZ: Thank you for allowing me to be here to express my concern. My name is Elena Rodriguez, and I am from the Long Beach Alliance for Children with Asthma. And I'm also a resident of West Long Beach.

I am worried. I'm concerned about the series of health attacks that this project would bring to my community, and this project being an expansion of the ICTF. This would be affecting different community

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health effects that we already have here in the community that are caused in great part by this company.

First, double the number of trucks would be passing very close by schools such as Cabrillo High School and Stephens, and the use of this project would cause more asthma attacks and other respiratory illnesses for thousands of children who are attending school today. Also there would increase the noise that already exists here 24 hours a day, sometimes making it impossible to sleep, that nevertheless I have to get up early every morning to get my daughter ready for school and to -- for me to go to work. The -- another thing that is very bothersome, and it is the bright lights that some residences have to deal with. Even at 15 nighttime it's as bright as day.

This third and last, I would be afraid to go to the park and to try to go running, for example, walking. I would not want to see my children go and play in the park. I would always be living with the stress and the worry, thinking that at any time some member of my family or even myself might be diagnosed with asthma or even worse, might develop some type of cancer. My community has a right to breathe clean air and to live in peace, and so we definitely do not want this project in our home, in our community, and so we urge you to

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And lastly, I would like to be away from the 3 103, and I would like to know how much -- how much the value of my house would go down because of this. That's 5 it. Thank you.

MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

7 Next speaker is Martha Cota followed by Elizabeth Warren and David Pettit.

MS. COTA: Good evening, everyone. I know that everyone is watching the gentleman up here in the front, but I don't want to look at you. As well, I don't want to turn my back on anyone. And I would like to ask all of you how much -- how many of you are residents of West Long Beach?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And Wilmington.

MS. COTA: Okay. Because the reason I have asked how many people live in Long Beach, but Long Beach could not be over by the port.

MR. ROGAN: Excuse me. There is not supposed 20 to be dialogue between the speaker and the audience.

MS. COTA: Okay. I don't know why, but I will continue, even though I can't see everyone. We have to consider that he said that at this point there are over a million trucks that come through our area, but in the next few years it will definitely be more than

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1 2 million -- 2.68 million trucks and thanks to this project that is coming our way.

Trains -- right now we have 4,795. But there will be 9,490 in the next future. But the numbers that we don't have -- the statistics that we don't have is how many more children or residents, other people, will have asthma or some type of cancer. Someone said, I don't know; I don't understand why they're doing this project. But I think that most of us do understand, and 10 I think everyone here, with whatever company or organization you're representing, you know exactly what we're saying to you, and you understand perfectly right.

Someone comes from Sacramento, saying it's a wonderful project. Someone comes from San Pedro Chamber of Commerce. I want all of you to be perfectly aware of what we say. I say that because I lived in Long Beach 17 for 20 years, and when my son was a year old, he got this illness that no one knew what it was. Now, he's 19 19, and he is going to the University of Long Beach. 20 His asthma is under control, but he still has it.

And so I leave it to you. I ask you to think 22 and think about other alternatives that could be used 23 for this. If there's money invested in an expansion 24 project and modifications, then there is also money that can be used to look for other ways to run these trains

and trucks. And when they talk about train -- trucks that exist, is it going to be the drivers or the companies that are going to buy the trucks? Thank you. 4 MR. ROGAN: Okay.

MS. WARREN: Good evening. My name is Elizabeth Warren. I'm the executive director of Future Ports, and I live in San Pedro. And the vast majority are members who live in Long Beach, San Pedro, and Wilmington.

Future Ports welcomes the development of this project as presented by the new team. The business community has heard and is looking into the concerns of the residents. We acknowledge, of course, that there are health impacts to port operations, and also actions are being taken to improve our environment.

Things are different now. Jobs have been lost. The future of many businesses -- the future of everyone in this room is at stake. Future Ports as well as everyone in this room wants to clean the ports. It wants to keep the housing. It wants to keep the economic stability including to support all of us with a good quality of life and good secure jobs that are started about \$40,000 for someone without a college degree. Those are jobs with benefits like paid vacations and health insurance.

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We need a proactive approach to environmental issues through leadership. This project demonstrates that to be applied to these endeavors. We know from history that even though we are in a recession right now, we will recover. Now is the time to invest in infrastructure which will bring back the cargo that provides jobs. Without trade and without the port, everyone's jobs suffers.

We are all connected to the supply chain. For instance, longshoremen buy cars, clothes, furniture, go out to eat, and go to the movies. If they don't work, they don't spend. When they don't purchase goods, retailers lose business and lay off workers including warehouse workers. Stores don't order goods which don't come to the port. No cargo at the port means the longshoremen don't work, which means the possibility of more layoffs.

Green technology and green jobs are important. The companies cannot be in the red and make the necessary adjustments to become green. Companies need to make a profit so instead of laying off workers they can invest in improvements which will not only provide good jobs for all of us, but also for the next generation, our children and grandchildren.

Union Pacific is going to do what has been

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1 asked of them. They are going to implement an electric 2 truck pilot program and solid charger stations. They 3 are going to take a serious look at magleys. They have 4 already replaced equipment and reduced diesel 5 particulate matter by 25 percent. This is a good start 6 in the right direction, and if they are allowed to make improvements, they will get more than 75 percent 8 reduction.

Jobs created by the investment in new equipment, green equipment that will clean up our environment, are part of the green jobs that we need, and construction jobs that also get our community working.

Doing nothing is not an option. Our economy is in the worst shape it's been in 40 years, and it could get worse. We need to get this particular project underway so we can create jobs, green jobs, construction 18 jobs, logistic jobs, and other good jobs to keep people employed, keep them in their homes, and keep our economy and our ports moving, and let's not forget cleaning up the air.

MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

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Next speaker is David Pettit followed by Ian McMillan, James Johnson, and Joan Greenwood.

MR. PETTIT: Good evening. My name is

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David Pettit, and I'm a lawyer with NRDC --

THE REPORTER: I can't hear you. Can you speak into the microphone?

MR. PETTIT: I've been in court a lot. I'm 5 David Pettit. I'm a lawyer with NRDC, and I've been following the program.

I want to address myself directly to the NOP, in particular to the alternative analysis that needs to be in the NOP EIR. As you probably know, the alternative analysis is really the heart of the EIR with 11 CEQA, and in my experience litigating these cases is one of the easiest ways to get the EIR thrown out of court, 13 requiring the project to start all over again, is an 14 analysis that is less than thorough alternative analysis. I have selected five things that I want to bring up that I hope to see analyzed in the EIR.

First would be advance technology for container 18 movement, whether it's magley, or there's a whole lot of 19 things on the table right now. I think that you all 20 need to look at that in the Port of L.A. Either have 21 something put in the NOP, or advanced technology about 22 container movement should be looked at. I think that needs to be referenced. You may think it's all a bunch of hooey, but that at least needs to be looked at.

Secondly, I think that the alternative of

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on-dock rail, that is the extension of on-dock rail, needs to be thoroughly looked at from a fresh perspective, and I don't think it's enough to say, well, it's an important, realistic plan that came out a few years ago, and what we're doing that's consistent with that. That rail plan may or may not be still accurate in terms of today's environment. I think that's something that these consultants on the EIR need to look 9 at.

Another speaker talked about potential limits on SR-47. As you know, that project, particularly the truck freeway project that is now in CEQA review -there is some attention about whether the EIR is going to be any good and whether the truck freeway is going to be built. I think it's important to this EIR to look at what will happen to the truck traffic whether the truck freeway or SR-47 is built or is not built, and if it's not built, what will be the best way to get the trucks to the expanded facility? Or as Mr. Logan pointed out, I think the project will have regional effects as well as local trucks going all over the place, and I think that needs to be looked at. Thank you very much.

MR. MC MILLAN: Good evening. My name is Ian McMillan. I'm a consultant with Los Angeles Unified School District with the office of environmental public

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safety. I have a couple of thoughts I'd like to share.

We really appreciate the fact that there's a lot of features that look like they're going to be reducing emissions from this project. I can't deny that's a good thing to reduce emissions from the source. However, a lot of these which I think is out of this EIR is that a lot of these reductions are public ending because of the rules that are outside of the project, but they're rules on trucks on reducing truck emissions or rules on reducing locomotive emissions or those kinds of things, that when they announce the signature on the EIR, a lot of these reductions are going to be outside of the project. But we're going to see some actual results, which it's going to be interesting to see how much is from the project and how much is from outside the project.

The reason I bring this up is that what's really kind of a concern here is that there is baseline health rate that we're concerned about from the area around here, and that what CEQA does, is CEQA analyzes the incremental effects of a project. And that is an inherent weakness in that if there is, in the case of this project, it's very possible that the health effects will actually be -- they will be better that will actually be having beneficial health effects from this

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1 project, or it will appear that way. But the baseline is still too high. Even if it reduces emissions 50 percent, incrementally it looks like you're fine, and it looks like you have reduced significant risks.

But in fact, this project itself has a baseline 6 rate already. So the rail yard baseline itself, I would like to see considered in this EIR. As part of that, looking at off-site emissions is something we'd like to see considered, for example, filtration of sensitive receptors at schools in the nearby area.

I'd also like to echo some of the comments by 12 other speakers about alternatives, especially looking at 13 the 710 project, that there's a lot of alternative technology being pushed for there, making sure that there's coordination happening with this project which is moving a little faster than the 710, but making sure that coordination involves the new technology.

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I guess the last thing is also when those 19 health-risk assessments were started looking at noncancer health effects -- this is kind of a technical comment -- but the traditional weecock (phonetic) toxicity criteria does not look at asthma as a toxic endpoint from diesel. Asthma is not considered when it comes to toxic endpoint. Thus, I think it's an important consideration to figure out how this asthma,

Federal Maritime Commission that may act. We have federal court which made chronic changes, et cetera, so you can't -- that's no guarantee to the community.

So what I want to read in the EIR is that if those things clean up the air, those programs, and everything else is thrown out. And there are improvements to trucks, so the trucks we have now, and it deals with what is going to be the impact. So that's what I want to know. I want an honest EIR that takes a look at the entire scope, not just the ICTF, but all the way through the port to ICTF, and look at methods of pollution.

And lastly, I just want to say, I was talking 14 to someone the other day. He said, you know, if you want to look at the impact of diesel particulate, one of the best places in the nation -- one of the best places in the nation right here in Hudson nearby, so I hope 18 that in the future, that will be the case. Thank you.

MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

Next speaker is Joan Greenwood followed by Ben Rockwell, Carla Truax, and Vicky Bennett.

MS. GREENWOOD: Good evening. My name is Joan Greenwood. I live in the Wrigley district of Long Beach, and I'm the environmental chair of the Wrigley Area Neighborhood Alliance.

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what will be the effects on asthma rates in this area 2 from diesel exhaust, but that's not traditionally covered. Thank you.

MR. JOHNSON: My name is James Johnson, and I 5 live in Long Beach. When I heard about this project, you hear a lot about the reduction of pollution on the 7 EIR and the ICTF. And I think what I want to know about this EIR, and I want to be in on the study. And my understanding of tonight is that at the scoping meeting we're supposed to talk about what should be in the scope of this EIR.

I need you to look at the environmental impacts of this project. You can't just look at what happens on the yard, what reductions may or may not occur on the yard, but you look at the impacts off the yard -- all 16 the trucks coming which is a concern of a lot of people 17 here. So the first thing I want to stress is that the impact of all the trucks that needs to be double the trucks -- that needs to be taken into effect; that needs to be taken into account.

Now, the next question is, well, you have your 22 other programs. A lot of people are working hard on the 23 clean trucks program in the port and to improve that problem, but we all know that those problems and those solutions are up in the air to some degree. We have the

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I have been following the issue of air quality here in the western section of Long Beach for well over ten years, and I am a chemist by training, and I'm an environmental consultant thoroughly familiar with risk assessment and data collection, data management, and data validation. I've been to many of these public meetings and brought out scientific deficiencies in modeling that needs to be dealt with the health-risk assessments for many of the environmental impacts of projects that are planned in the port area.

Therefore, tonight I do want to make it part of the official record that the use of monitors is not correct. In this EIR for it to be scientifically defensible, it must be based on the epidemiological data and the type of health-risk assessment done by the health profession, not the one that is done by traditional environmental consultants for hazardous materials emissions. And I will be very carefully looking at the resulting EIR to make sure that it is scientifically defensible.

Now, today I read a report that was prepared by the Health Assessment Institute. This is a scientifically defensible report. It is independently validated by a quality assurance specialist, and what he makes a notation of is that many of the models that are

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1 done and being presented to the public have not been validated. This EIR must have a good analysis of the air quality impact by duly credentialed scientists trained in epidemiological protocol.

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Okay. I also did want to mention that in many of the comments earlier today about the economics of this project and its benefits, they're not germane to the Environmental Impact Report. They are side comments and should not be made part of the administrative record. However, those brought up by the community with regard to both the economic and social impact that are direct results of the project itself and the environment, are germane and should be part of the administrative record. And I just wanted to make that very clear in an understanding of what the decision-makers should be concerned with in the Final EIR.

The other thing is the regional impacts are important. I read a book that was published in 1977. It said, yes, that's part of the process. And therefore, all of these other projects, SR-47, and the others must be brought into it because -- and for consistency because they're not consistent in monitoring the number of trucks, and what's going to happen when you put the additional truck traffic on these roads and

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the infrastructure that happens with that.

Again, these are direct cumulative impacts that affect the people who live in this area. That's what is important in the EIR, not the person who gets a good job, that moves to the other side of Long Beach or further from the 710. It's what happens to the people here in this neighborhood.

MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

Ben Rockwell.

MR. ROCKWELL: Thank you. Good evening. My 11 name is Ben Rockwell. I live here in the downtown area 12 of Long Beach within three blocks of the 710 freeway. 13 I'm a member of (unintelligible) organization in greater 14 Long Beach interfacing, organizing in the community --15 community organized (unintelligible). I'm also chair of 16 their fall ministry team of First Congregational Church, as well as president of the local chapter of California 18 for Disability Mobility Rights. I am a resident with [19] COPD, asthma, and polio. I have just started two weeks ago on a breathing machine, and tomorrow I have a concentrated (unintelligible) delivered to my home.

The air pollution, not only from the diesel particulates, but from the particulates that are being kicked up by the tires of all these trucks, the particulates that are being knocked off the freeway as these trucks go along the freeway -- they're killing me. We were promised 20 years ago that the Alameda Corridor would remove over half of the trucks from the 710 freeway. This did not happen. We were lied to. How do you expect us to continue on listening to these reports and saying it's going to get better, when in essence it never has?

The plans don't work. My home is filled with particulates. I have difficulty breathing. I cannot continue on this way. There has been talk about filters, but who gives a care for those of us that are living in our own apartments? We can't afford to move. We don't have the energy to be able to move out of the area to get better care, but yet we are dying because of all of this. We need to have filters in our homes, especially for those of us that are dying because of the pollution that is being caused by all these trucks and being caused by the movement of all these goods. Thank you.

MR. ROGAN: Thank you. Next speaker is Carla Truax. MS. TRUAX: Good evening. My name is Carla Truax, and I work at the University of Southern

California Environmental Health. Thanks for this

opportunity to comment on the NOP, and we see the

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additional tracks are closer to homes and schools and should be on the industrial side, on the west side of the ICTF, rather than the east. It also makes a difference whether the unused Watson land is no longer going to be used for consumer storage if this is unused and has emission sources in that area.

The EIR should explain how Union Pacific cleans up hazardous waste spills or diesel fuel spills and where the hazardous waste goes. We request that the EIR contain a list of hazardous waste spills since its opening in 1986 so that the department toxicity control can evaluate it for the contamination of the things. We bring this up because other yards have been closed as highly contaminated and required major cleanup. We request that the DTSC evaluate whether the soil is contaminated. If it is, then the pavement is going to be torn up for the modernization. There should be a plan for how the nearby residents are presented this. If the land that the ICTF now sits on is contaminated, then I suggest that the department of toxic substances control conduct soil samplings.

I still have some comments on the checklist -management and planning should be checked as an impact. We must consider the adjacent land because in this case to the northeast and the east which are school and

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1 residential, the land which is not ICTF-intended, the industrial which is more than a quarter of the adjoining property which is not industrial.

Recreation should be checked, and there are 5 filters in some of the schools, but when the children play outside, it definitely impacts their recreation. Population and housing should be checked as an impact. 8 We need to see appropriate land-use planning in the 9 twenty-first century -- would not consider putting the rail yard immediately next to homes and schools based on 11 the current climate of the covenants, so the box should be checked. And the value of the homes in the area 1.3 would be decreased. Parks should also be checked. The 14 question asked is the project will increase the need for 1.5 parks by the project which would be no by the project, but parks will be impacted by the project. But with additional locomotives and trucks passing by, it is not safe to play in the parks with hundreds of trucks 18 19 passing by schools. Thank you. 20

MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

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21 Next speaker is Vicky Bennett followed by Jesse Marquez and James Larson.

MS. BENNETT: Good evening. My name is Vicky 24 Bennett. I'm a resident here in the community, and I'm also an employee of the Union Railroad, and I listened

of the public in the last ten years who have learned to use the public process, via the Environmental Impact Report, via CEQA EIS reports, and we began to voice our opinions and our comments and our recommendations.

Our members who live here do not want the ICTF terminal to expand. This EIR fails to include other alternatives such as what if it was mandatory for the terminal operators to increase their usage of the Alameda Corridor? If they did that, it would reduce trucks going to the ICTF terminal. If the ports in their planning of terminals and regard to terminals 12 included that rails would be dockside to ships, then the 13 ships could unload directly onto the rail, yet they are still not doing that today. Even the latest Draft EIR project focus does not include shipside alternatives.

The public has asked that all impacts be mitigated to zero or near zero, and that has not been done. ICTF terminal has had all these years to be able to install H factor purification system for residential homes, senior citizen housing, apartments, public schools, and all locations, and they did not do it.

Residents have brought up about noise impacts on them. There's been years of opportunity to install soundproofing, and to make it perfectly clear, double-paned windows is unacceptable. I paid \$3,000 to

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1 to some of the nonsense as far as some of the illnesses 2 and asthma and stuff. I have a son who is also a 3 student here in Stephen Middle School, and he was born with asthma. I'm pretty sure it wasn't due to the road. 5 And he's played every day. He has not had an asthma attack here since we have been in the community for the last three years. I live half a mile here off the freeway.

I'm very supportive of the program and the project, and I'm sure that it's going to bring jobs in the country and in the community. Thank you.

MR. MARQUEZ: Good evening. Thank you for this opportunity. My name is Jesse Marquez, and I'm executive director of the Coalition for a Safe Environment. We have members who live in Long Beach, Carson, and Wilmington that all border that new terminal and port terminal.

Green begins when new technologies are introduced to address, mitigate, eliminate, or reduce to no significant impacts. Both the ports, ICTF, Alameda Corridor have had opportunities over the past 25 years to immediately adopt these types of technologies, so they would not have impacts on the public, but they did not do it. They chose especially not to do it. They did not want to invest in it. It has only been because

have double-paned windows installed in my home, and it reduces the noise about 10 to 15 percent. But when I did do research, I did find that there is soundproofing glass that reduces sound 90 to 95 percent, and that should also be recommended.

A public health education fund has been asked for many times to be established whereby public health impacts could be taken care of because some that do not have insurance have nowhere to go. Families that do have insurance are being -- haven't had higher additional changes to be made. Prescription prices are increasing. L.A. County hospitals have cut over a hundred doctors over the last two years because of financial shortages when they did not cause the health problems. So we will submit additional comments because we want to highlight these.

We just want to close with the Chamber of Commerce never insisted, has ever initiated any proposal, any plan to ask its members to voluntarily establish programs and plans or to purchase equipment to reduce the impacts on the public health. Thank you.

MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

Next, James Larson followed by Candice Kim, Susan Nakamura, and Laurie Angel.

MR. LARSON: My name is James Larson. I'm a

1 resident of West Long Beach and a member of St. Angeles (phonetic) Church. I've lived in West Long Beach for 20 years. I live approximately at the corner of Santa Fe and Hill Street. I have lived within three blocks of four schools.

My son is in fifth grade at St. Lucy's Elementary. His class has about a 30 percent asthma rate, and beyond that, I am not going to repeat everything that's been said in our position on this expansion. But I would say that I agree with almost everything that's been said, and that the expansion of the railroad will, undoubtedly, cause a negative impact on an already polluted neighborhood.

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But the one thing that hasn't really been, you know, talked about too much is the business practicality of what they're trying to do here. And to me it makes no sense to load and unload the same container carton three times in a 25-mile distance and not yet be at the 19 final destination, you know. So I totally support an 20 on-port solution of that.

It also doesn't make sense that you're talking 22 about expansion when containers coming into the post are decreasing, not increasing. And just recently, if you 24 read the paper, it tells you that containers coming into the port are down 25 percent, yet they're going to

Powers Authority to prepare the EIR for this current project. This agreement was made because of CEQA which allows the lead agency to contract with another public entity to plan the EIR. The agreement states the JPA has determined inappropriate for the AQMD, quote, as the agency with expertise in CEQA document preparation, air quality analysis, air pollution mitigation, and health risks to prepare the EIR, end quote.

While the AQMD staff would prepare the EIR, an agreement recognizes that under CEOA the Final EIR shows the independent judgment of the lead agency which is the JPA, and the Final that will be on all questions concerning the contents of the EIR lies within the sole discretion of the JPA. The agreement does state, however, that it does not limit authority to AQMD, including authority to take positions on the project including, but not limited to, commenting on the Draft EIR and the Final EIR.

In closing, we will show the JPA and the public that the AQMD staff will continue to apply the best efforts and expertise to develop a thorough analysis regarding environmental impacts, alternatives, mitigation, and compliance with CEQA.

MR. ROGAN: Thank you. Laurie Angel followed by Maria Trujillo,

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increase the trucks in the neighborhood by three times 2 what they already are. It doesn't make any sense. It doesn't make business sense, you know, so in an inefficient business model, and inefficiency results in pollution and to waste. That's all I have to say. Thank you.

MS. KIM: Good evening. My name is Candice Kim. I'm here on behalf of the Coalition for Clean Air to share a brief concern regarding this proposed project.

I share the opinion that there should be an 12 analysis of alternatives that includes maximizing on-dock rail, and after a thorough analysis and inclusion in the plan, there is an application of the calculations that include truck traffic that there be 16 thorough -- thoroughly accessible review of the assumptions that have gone in that calculation, and something that is accessible to someone that maybe does 19 not have an engineering degree so that everyone in the community can understand just how you are calculating how much the truck traffic will increase. Thank you.

MS. NAKAMURA: Good evening. My name is 23 Susan Nakamura. I'm in planning management in the South 24 Coast Air Quality Management District. Last year the South Coast agency decided in agreement with ICTF Joint

Jesus Trujillo, and Alicia Carvera, I think.

MS. ANGEL: I'm Laurie Angel. I'm president of the North Long Beach Community Action Group. And this project and the port activity impacts neighborhoods far north and east of this location here. The air pollution and particulate matter impacts are horrendous.

The planned mitigation and corridors make our roads unsafe, and unfortunately, the rail yard as it exists now has been a very poor neighbor in the region. They do not maintain their properties properly. They are magnets for graffiti. They create dust. There is noise. There is light pollution. I would like them to take care of what they have now before they are given an opportunity to build further.

We have the Alameda Corridor which was -- I don't know how much it cost, but I'm sure it was hundreds of millions of dollars. There is absolutely no reason why more effective and less intrusive measures can be taken to support our neighbors and the residents around us, and to mitigate the impacts of these type of operations on people that live here. The impact on the quality of life is horrendous.

I have asthma. My husband has lung problems; he's had cancer twice. People are dying, and we need the port and all of the businesses associated with the

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port to be responsible for the human beings that live in one of the most polluted areas in the United States.

MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

Maria Trujillo.

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MS. TRUJILLO: Good evening. My name is 6 Maria Trujillo, and the reason I'm here is that I consider this project one that affects my family once again. I have a daughter with asthma, and she goes to school. She has had asthma since she was nine months old, and she's worse and worse and worse.

I can see that you're very concerned about your project, but you're not very concerned about the people and the children. The children get sick. We have had so many sleepless nights that we have with doctors and hospitals, and a lot of people don't understand that if they haven't been through it, that that is what we've been through.

And so will you please think about the -- I ask as a mother that you think about this -- that this has -- that this will have on people, especially children, and their health. Please look for some other way to do this. Thank you.

MR. TRUJILLO: Good evening. My name is 24 Jesus Trujillo. I'm a person with asthma, and I am opposed to this project. We are already saturated with

so it doesn't really affect me, but even some of their schools end up coming to these schools that are over 3 here.

And this asthma -- there are so many kids with asthma, and basically there aren't that many now, but what's going to happen in five or six years? Are the kids going to end up coming to public schools with masks on -- wearing masks?

You're going to get a lot of good out of your project. There will be a lot of utility, increased capacity, but have you really thought about these sick children? And have you thought about creating -establishing a fund to help these children with their 13 health care? We ask that you think about these things and think about those benefits. Thank you.

MR. RIVERA: Good evening. My name is Antonio Rivera. I live in the gardens in Long Beach next to the rail track in the west side. I also share pollution with the west side.

Everybody has been talking about what their reality is of this scientific and what's happening 21 today. One of the things that the Union Pacific is doing, if you're a resident, they need to stop the polluting trucks coming to the yards today. There are clean trucks available. Many already are doing service

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1 traffic, smog, and noise. I have a daughter at Cabrillo 2 School, and the truck traffic is dangerous for her 3 because of all the pollution, and it also is harmful to 4 all of the other students here.

And so in your report, I ask that you 6 investigate and reduce the effects that your project will have on noise, pollution, and respiratory illnesses. Thank you.

MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

Alicia Carvera. Tony Rivera next, Jill Hill after that, and then Mary Hernandez after that.

MS. CARVERA: Good evening. My name is Alicia Carvera, and I -- pardon me my voice. I'm a 14 little under the weather. I lived here for 13 years. I have three children with asthma, and it was very 16 important for me to come and speak to you all regarding the reality of our situation. A lot of people have commented about children with asthma, but I think you really need to understand what's involved.

You're talking about bringing about big 21 changes. There are going to be big changes. We as citizens are opposed to these changes. Change can be very good, but there is already too much pollution here 24 because of the freeways and the truck traffic. And a lot of people may say, well, I don't live right there,

to the trains. That's number one. Stop the killing of the kids in the neighborhood.

3 Number two, what we need to do is tell the city about controlling the property owners. UP -- I work for the UP. Twenty years ago, which is a long time ago, when we used to plug the freeways, if they missed a shift they go to City of Industry, Burma, and other areas and if you believe it, they go to Washington where they have the other rail yards, and you see all the trucks and the trucks that get out. The other thing is 11 if they don't put that on the side all the rail yards, if they're talking about making a mega rail yard, what the port needs to do really is think about it as a bond, and put it next to the housing. Let's get it there, and 1.5 let's get it over with, and do it right for once.

Now, that should be the message for the joint boards so they can start acting and dealing with this project. It seems to me, the rail is not going to do it. So they are always playing games like the way when they come, the way they're going to tell you, they trying to tell us the traffic is going to slow down on the 710. It's not going to slow down on any of the freeways, all the freeways all over to Riverside and going out to Burbank.

The other thing is that we really need to have

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1 is when we talking about today about this problem of cleaning or not cleaning the yard, many of the people live in the city. We're talking about change for the 4 city -- for the Chamber of Commerce coming and saying 5 this is where we need jobs. We need jobs. We are not 6 against rails, and the west side is a business industry, and we need to have business in here, but not at the 8 cost of people's lives. If they are going for the money, not for the country, so we need to understand the 10 results, and please give thought.

The joint boards need to understand they have 12 the solution at the harbor. They can get it done, and they can make the rails lead the way to drink the water 13 like the horse. Thank you.

MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

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Next speaker, Jill Hill and Mary Hernandez.

MS. HILL: Good evening. My name is Jill Hill, and I am the president of the Wrigley Area Neighborhood Alliance which is just on the other side of the river bed. And we represent about 280 members. I'm not here to speak on their behalf, just as a resident.

22 And when I walked in here, I couldn't help observing the girl on the street, and the girl was pointing to see that -- and after they made their comments, they left and went on their way while the

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1 residents are here making their comments, and they 2 didn't even stick around to see what they had to say. But I have to agree with a number of things they said.

I am for green technology and the jobs and for 5 diverting traffic off the 710 and for minimizing congestion, but also what others have said it was cost. What cost? And the cost to friends and neighbors on the west side. It impacts us also.

The ICTF is really a big issue, and it's sure to impact the lack of trust. There is a lack of trust here. They see things come; promises made; it's not 12 what it's supposed to be. The new technology -- we have 13 that available. To me, I think what the solution is, take what you have right now and convert it to green. 15 Show the people that you can do this. If they can see 16 that has been done and there is actually a benefit, great. Then I think they would applaud an expansion. 18 But until then, you're going to find some opposition. 19 So it might behoove you to start small, make it a second 20 phase.

And also how are all these health problems 22 going to be mitigated? And how will the construction 23 problems be mitigated? And I am in total agreement with what others said about on-dock loading. In fact, that's 25 the solution to the problem. That's the real solution,

not bringing them up here, but keeping them right where they come off the ship. Thank you very much.

MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

Mary Hernandez.

5 MS. HERNANDEZ: Good evening. My name is Mary Hernandez. I'm living here on the west side for 64 years, and I belong to ICO -- community organization and the city of Long Beach advisor for the Senior Citizen Advisory Commission. What I'm talking about, I live two blocks from the rail yard, from the freeway, terminal island freeway. I live on Hayes Avenue, and sometimes 11 12 the noise is terrible. You can hear these trucks 13 honking, honking. And you can hear the trains when 14 they -- I guess they bang together -- other parts of the 15 train.

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Coupling. MS. HERNANDEZ: I don't know what it's called, 17 but I can hear it. And sometimes it's all night, 18 19 sometimes wee hours of the morning. And the thing is, 20 we have senior citizens -- talking about asthma, we have senior citizens that have asthma and health problems. 21 22 And as of right now, I'm going to a doctor, a 23 cardiologist, because of all the pollution that comes 24 from them -- from those trains and trucks. You can hear them all night long. And I live close by, two blocks

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away. That's what I wanted to say.

Let's keep it -- keep it in the port. That's where it should be. I thank you very much. Short and sweet. Okay.

MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

Jesse Javier.

MR. JAVIER: My name is Jesse J. Javier. I'm a resident of the west side. I live at 1835 West Lincoln Street. I'm going to close with saying the people on the west side are opposed to the expansion -- the commercial fisherman. I've seen the ports grow over the months, not in years, but it's -- everyone is complaining about the smog, their asthma, health, and environmental issues. That is number one.

But what affects me the most is my wallet. The property that we live at will go down. A lot of people that live here don't realize that. They realize environmental problems. That's number one. But with me it's my pocket. What can I do about that? Nothing. But you can help these people with the environmental impacts, but be prepared that people on the west side are going to fight the expansion plan. There are other alternatives that we can work together in putting it on the rail, make it the same.

Other than that, I guess I have 42 seconds

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1	left. I just want to say, be prepared. We are going to	
	fight you guys. Okay. We did it before, and we can do	
	it again. And thank you very much.	
4	MR. ROGAN: Thank you. Those are all the	
	speaker cards that I have unless somebody has	
	last-minute comments about that.	
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	three or four times a year. This is, frankly, the best	
	meeting I've ever been in where people were intelligent,	
	tactful, passionate, well-prepared. I want to applaud	
	all of you in the audience for the job you did coming up	
	here and speaking. Thank you very much.	
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